

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A bidirection beam expansion line narrowing unit for a laser defining a laser chamber comprising:

- A) first direction beam expander positioned to receive a beam from said laser chamber said beam defining a generally rectangular cross-section and to expand the cross-section of the beam from said laser in a first direction;
- B) a second direction beam expander positioned to expand said ~~cross-section~~ beam in a second direction; and
- C) a grating positioned to reflect a selected narrow band of wavelengths back, via said second direction beam expander and said first direction beam expander, to said laser chamber for amplification.

2. (Original) A line narrowing unit as in Claim 1 wherein said first direction is horizontal and said second direction is vertical.

3. (Original) A line narrowing unit as in Claim 1 wherein said first direction beam expander is comprised of at least one prism and said second direction beam expander is comprised of at least one prism.

4. (Original) A line narrowing unit as in Claim 1 wherein said first direction beam expander is comprised of three prisms and said second direction beam expander is comprised of a single prism.

5. (Original) A line narrowing unit as in Claim 1 and further comprising a tuning mirror.

6. (Previously amended) A narrow band excimer laser comprising:

- A) a laser chamber comprising
 - 1) two electrodes;
 - 2) an excimer laser gas;
 - 3) a blower means for circulating the gas;
 - 4) a pulse power means for creating discharges between said electrodes to produce excimer laser pulses;

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- B) a resonant cavity comprising an output coupler and a line narrowing unit said line narrowing unit comprising;
- 1) first direction beam expander positioned to receive a beam from said laser chamber said beam defining a generally rectangular cross-section and to expand the cross-section of the beam from said laser in a first direction;
 - 2) a second direction beam expander positioned to expand the cross-section of said beam in a second direction; and
 - 3) a grating positioned to reflect a selected narrow band of wavelengths back, via said second direction beam expander and said first direction beam expander, to said laser chamber for amplification.
7. (Currently Amended) A laser as in Claim 1 wherein said first direction and is ~~horizontal and said second direction is vertical~~ are generally orthogonal.
8. (Original) A laser as in Claim 1 wherein said first direction beam expander is comprised of at least one prism and said second direction beam expander is comprised of at least one prism.
9. (Original) A laser as in Claim 1 wherein said first direction beam expander is comprised of three prisms and said second direction beam expander is comprised of a single prism.
10. (Original) A laser as in Claim 1 and further comprising a tuning mirror.